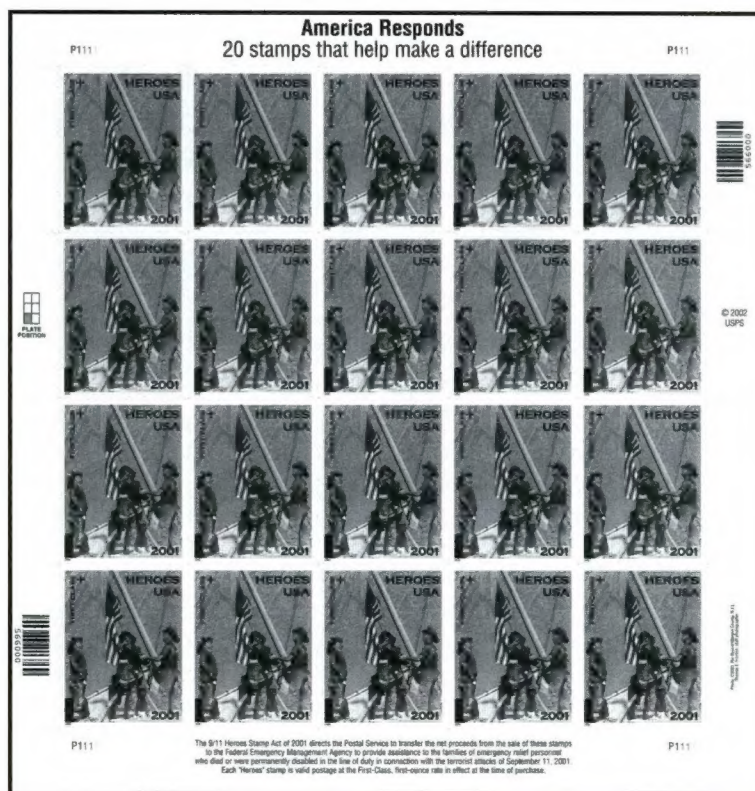


NONDENOMINATED (34¢+11¢) HEROES OF 2001 SEMIPOSTAL



Date of Issue: June 7, 2002

Catalog Number: Scott B2

Colors: black, cyan, magenta, yellow

First-Day Cancel: New York, New York

First-Day Cancellations: 327,689

Format: Pane of 20 stamps, vertical, 5 across, 4 down. Offset printing plates printing 120 subjects per impression (8 across, 15 around).

Gum Type: self-adhesive

Microprinting: none

Overall Stamp Size: 1.56 by 1.225 inches; 39.624 by 31.115mm

Pane Size: 7.13 by 7.26 inches; 181.102 by 184.4mm

Perforations: 11¼ (die-cut simulated perforations) (Ashton-Potter die cutter)

Selva Inscription: "America Responds/20 stamps that help make a difference." "Photo: © 2001 *The Record* (Bergen County, N.J.)/Thomas E.

Franklin, staff photographer." "The 9/11 Heroes Stamp Act of 2001 directs the Postal Service to transfer the net proceeds from the sale of these stamps/to the Federal Emergency Management Agency to provide assistance to the families of emergency relief personnel/who died or were permanently disabled in the line of duty in connection with the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001./Each 'Heroes' stamp is valid postage at the First-Class, first-ounce rate in effect at the time of purchase."

Selvaqe Markings: "© 2002/USPS." "PLATE/POSITION" and diagram. Universal Product Code (UPC) "566000" in 2 locations.

Designer, Art Director and Typographer: Derry Noyes of Washington, D.C.

Photographer: Thomas E. Franklin, *The Record*, Hackensack, New Jersey

Modeler: Joseph Sheeran of Ashton-Potter (USA) Ltd., Williamsville, New York

Stamp Manufacturing: Stamps printed by Ashton-Potter on offset portion of a Stevens Vari-Size Security press. Stamps processed by Ashton-Potter.

Quantity Ordered: 204,000,000

Plate Number Detail: 1 set of 4 plate numbers preceded by the letter P in selvaqe above or below each corner stamp

Plate Number Combinations Reported: P1111, P2222, P3333

Paper Supplier: Flexcon/International Papers

Tagging: block tagging on stamps

The Stamp

On June 7, the Postal Service issued the second semipostal stamp in its history. The Heroes of 2001 stamp was placed on sale in New York City and nationwide to raise funds for the families of police officers, firefighters and other emergency relief personnel who were killed or permanently disabled in the terrorist attacks on the United States September 11, 2001.

Semijumbo in size and vertically arranged, the stamp reproduces a widely published news photograph showing three dust-covered New York City firefighters raising a U.S. flag over the wreckage of the World Trade Center.

The Trade Center had been destroyed only hours before by suicidal zealots who hijacked two commercial airliners and flew them into the Twin Towers. A third hijacked plane was flown into the Pentagon in suburban Washington, D.C., and a fourth crashed in western Pennsylvania as heroic passengers struggled to overpower the terrorists.

The stamp was nondenominated and sold for 45¢. For 23 days, it covered the 34¢ one-ounce first-class postage rate, with the remaining 11¢ going to a fund for the Federal Emergency Management Agency to distribute to the designated families (less the Postal Service's reasonable costs). On June 30, when the first-class rate was increased to 37¢, the charitable portion of the stamp's price was reduced to 8¢.

Like the first U.S. semipostal, issued in 1998 to raise funds for breast